

INSIDE TODAY
WORLD NEWS
WORLD HUNGER



Food and Agriculture Organization Director-General Jacques Diouf talks to journalists during a press conference in Rome, Friday, June 19, 2009. One in six people in the world - or more than 1 billion - is now hungry, a historic high due largely to the global economic crisis and stubbornly high food prices, a U.N. agency said Friday.

See Page B8

SPORTS NEWS
NADAL OUT



Spain's Rafael Nadal reacts during an exhibition match against Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka, in which Nadal lost at the Hurlingham Club, in London, Friday June 19, 2009.

See Sports Today

Three crew members tested positive for Swine Flu quarantined on board Aruba takes great precautions with "Ocean Dream"



ORANJESTAD, Aruba -- A Caribbean cruise spoiled by a swine flu outbreak ended amid a swarm of masked medical workers on Friday, and broader fears about the pandemic's spread in the region prompted cancellation of a 26-nation sports festival.

Helicopters buzzed overhead and Coast Guard boats flanked the Ocean Dream as passengers disembarked into a dockside terminal in Aruba, where nearly a dozen health officials shrouded in white clothes and wearing masks checked them for symptoms.

"You come back from a cruise, you're on vacation, and it feels like you're on a boat full of lepers," said Isabel Duque, 48, of Madrid.

Three crew members tested positive for the H1N1 influenza and 11 others showed symptoms during the voyage that started June 12 in Aruba.

That led port authorities in Grenada and Barbados to block the ship's scheduled stops and forced cancellation of a cruise that had been slated to start Friday aboard the ship, which has a capacity of 1,350 passengers.

The Dutch territory's Health Ministry said it was examining the roughly 400 returning passengers and an equal number of crew members as a precaution, though officials declined to say if tests had revealed new cases.

Swabs were taken from those who showed basic flu signs such as cough and fever. If a preliminary test comes back



positive, officials said, the person will be kept under surveillance on the ship along with people with confirmed cases.

Passengers judged healthy will be driven to the airport, officials said. "The intention is for everyone to leave (the island) today," said Bibi Arends, director of the emergency management committee, adding that crew members will remain aboard.

The scramble to isolate a few confirmed cases of the disease showed the concern that the disease has roused among officials in a region that depends heavily on its reputation for carefree tourism.

Another Caribbean nation, Trinidad and Tobago, announced Friday it was canceling next month's inaugural Caribbean Games due to the risk swine flu could spread among athletes and supporters.

The 26-nation tournament was supposed to feature athletes such as Trinidad's Olympic silver-medal sprinter Richard

Thompson and rising 400-meter runner Renny Quow, as well as Cuba's famed boxing team.

At least a dozen participants in a Trinidad volleyball tournament last week, including players from Trinidadian and Suriname, tested positive for H1N1 influenza.

The Ocean Dream's Spanish operator Pullmantur, a subsidiary of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., had to cancel a weeklong cruise scheduled to start on Friday and some 250 passengers booked on that trip have agreed to a weeklong



at the beginning. These poor people seem like zombies."

Venezuelan authorities said 381 passengers, mostly Venezuelans but including 55 foreigners, got off the ship Wednesday night at Venezuela's Isla Margarita. The ship company said that was the final destination of the Venezuelans.

One Venezuelan and one Argentine among those disembarking showed possible swine flu symptoms and were separated from the others, Deputy Health Minister Nancy Perez told government television.

Pullmantur said in a statement that the crew members with flu "are suffering mild symptoms and are recovering as expected."

The company said the passengers, most from Spain and Latin America, would receive a partial refund. □



CHOCOLATE, CARAMEL AND COOKIE
THE TWIX MIX
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At the Don Ellias Mansur Ball Park

Reggae legends “Tribal Seeds” in concert tonight



ORANJESTAD – Californian Reggae Musicians “Tribal Seeds” arrived on the island for a concert at the Don Ellias Mansur Ball Park on Saturday night. Last night, the group was at Sr. Frogs for a meet and greet the fans with press interviews, autographs and photo ops.

With heavy influence from Bob Marley, Steel Pulse, and Midnite, this new and unique group brings a refreshing rock vibe to roots style reggae music. Spiritually driven and musically talented, Tribal Seeds have created an art form for rebel music enthusiasts! They bring an authentic sound that reaches a broad demographic.

Two brothers, both raised playing instruments since early childhood in San Diego

head the group. The lead singer Steven writes the lyrics for the group, and his brother Tony-Ray along with the band produce all their music. They have toured throughout the U.S. as well as Mexico & Hawaii, and have shared the stage with Matisyahu, The Wailers and Gregory Issacs.

The concert will be opened with local bands “ILA”,

“Data Panik”, “Time Bandits” y “Honey Pot”. Also participating is Dj Theo of “I LOVEMUZIKA” y Dj Danny Platinum who will entertain the public “between sets” y DJ Jean Carlos who will be the Master of Ceremonies for the evening

Check with you concierge on how to buy tickets for the concert Tonight. □



Make your Father’s Day dinner extra special this year!

“The Deadliest Catch” is at Moby Dick’s



PASEO HERENCIA - Only this weekend for Father’s Day special, Moby Dick’s seafood restaurant is featuring Moby

Dick’s famous King Crab Legs, Crab Cakes & Crab Bisque trio for \$ 59.00.

Celebrate Father’s day all day Saturday and Sunday with the Father’s Day specials plus regular a la carte menu will be served from 12:30 PM until 11:00 PM, Specials include a 3 course selection for \$25.00. A

la carte includes the legendary Lobster Thermidor, Mussels Monte Carlo, Sautéed Jumbo Prawns, Seafood Pasta, and many other favorites.

Guests will be eligible to win tickets for the cinemas by participating in the restaurant’s Father’s Day specials. Moby Dick’s is located in the new Paseo Herencia Mall in front of the Holiday Inn Resort. □

Including Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles

Dutch government buys 2 vaccines each for entire Dutch population

AMSTERDAM- The Dutch government has decided to buy 34 million pandemic vaccines against the H1N1 flu virus, sufficient for two doses per person, and entered into contracts with vaccine producers this week.

The government said it had agreed with contracted producers the vaccine must be available by the end of 2009.

‘The Health Council has advised to buy vaccines for the entire Dutch population, including the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba,’ the Health Ministry said in a statement. The population of the Netherlands is roughly 16 million.

The council advised the government to give each person two doses of the vaccine because one dose was not considered sufficient.

Prior to the World Health Organization declaring an influenza pandemic last week, the government already had an option for the supply of the vaccine with Belgian company Solvay , but it was not clear whether that option had now been converted into this order. □

Marriott Organizes Blood Drive as Spirit to Serve Activity



PALM BEACH – On Monday June 15, the Aruba Marriott took the initiative to organize a blood drive with cooperation of the Aruba Blood Bank.

As a contribution to the World Blood Donor Day on June 14th, a large group of Marriott's associates donated their blood to help others in

need. Many preparations were done beforehand by the Blood Bank such as the physical check up, blood tests and other health tests of the associates.

The Blood Bank had their hands full with over 7 groups of participants scheduled the entire day to donate blood. They were pleased with the

great outcome and received several donors with a unique blood type. The initiative came from the General Manager Rick Zeolla, who encouraged Marriott's associates to serve our community.

The Marriott "Spirit to Serve our Communities" activity will be repeated after four months.

The Aruba Marriott would like to thank the Blood Bank, Maureen Eduwardo and Terry Davis from Marriott's Human Resources department for their cooperation in making this blood drive a successful one.

The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms – the most spacious on the island – each with large, private balconies overlooking the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea.



On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and

high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions.

To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 888-PARADISE or visit www.arubamarriott.com. □

SATURDAY'S LOBSTER NIGHT



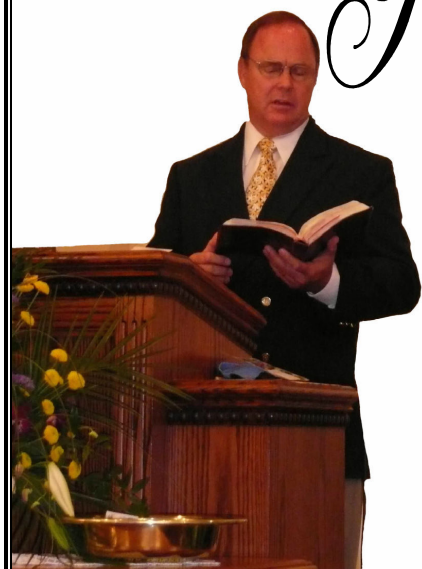
\$ 34.95 per person + 15% s.c and 3% Gov. tax

New England clam chowder or tossed salad with choice of dressing
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We would love to have you visit with us!

Laura & Monique say Ayo to Aruba



EAGLE BEACH – A farewell luncheon in honor of Laura & Monique celebrated productive and creative ten months in which the two lovely Dutch stagiers served as apprentices at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club, Monique in the Food & Beverage department in charge of food safety and Laura at the department of Human Resources as Event Coordinator. Laura, spunky and spontaneous, Monique methodical and organized contributed a great deal to their departments, says General Manager Joe Najjar who wished the two university students success in all their upcoming

endeavors. While Laura is quite confident her future is in hospitality, Monique is still weighting her options, perfecting her Spanish next, on a stint as a student in Spain. Both Laura and Monique report they learned a lot in Aruba, and Pierre Kock, the Director of Food & Beverage is quick to point out that a certain successful director of operations at a branded high rise hotel, also jump-started her career as a stagier at La Cabana. Pictured here the Dutch themed luncheon at the Sit & Chat café with Laura & Monique. □



SPECIAL 3-COURSE MENU ON FATHER'S DAY

“ Wide Selection to choose from including fresh seafood, chicken and steak from our grill “

\$35.50 per person for complete menu
15% Service Charge + 3% BBO not included.

Includes a glass of house wine or Balashi or Soda



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Aruba TODAY

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ALWAYS ... ON TOP OF THE NEWS!



U.S. Forward Operating Location Welcomes New Commander

WILLEMSTAD - presided over the ceremony. Lieutenant Colonel Otto Habedank, Commander of the United States Forward Operating Locations in Curacao and Aruba relinquished his leadership to Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Price, yesterday. Colonel Douglas Galipeau, Commander of 474th Air Expeditionary Group, Headquarters Twelfth Air Force, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, passed the ceremonial flag

to the new commander physically represents this transfer.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Price was the Air Force Section Chief United States Military Group Bolivia prior to taking command in Curacao and Aruba.

The U.S. FOL, 429th Expeditionary Operations Squadron, supports multinational aircraft operations that conduct detection, monitoring and tracking missions supporting counter-drug efforts in the region. U.S. FOL Curaçao was formed as a result of an agreement between, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the United States whereby aircraft and crews



deploy to the U.S. FOL on a temporary basis to conduct mission operations.

During 2008, surveillance flights from the U.S. FOL assisted in the seizure of more than 270 tons of narcotics with a street value of over 5 billion USD.

Also, U.S. FOL military and civilian personnel often volunteer their services in support of community projects and are pleased to have established partnership with various local agencies which benefits the people of Curaçao. □



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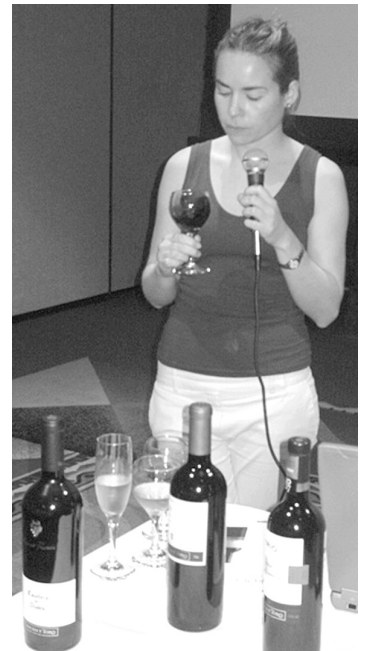
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PALM BEACH - There were no empty seats in the ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort last Friday afternoon when winemaker Karine Mollenhauer from Concha y Toro explained the ins and outs of Chilean wines during a most interesting tasting seminar. With Romar Trading's Clive Faustin doing the honor of opening the bottles and pouring, Karine proceeded to enlighten the group, which consisted of restaurant and bar staffers. The seminar filled up the afternoon of the winemaker's flying visit to Aruba: on Thursday evening she was the



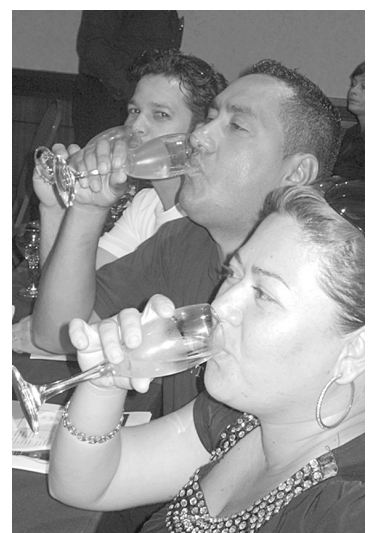
fresh, aromatic wine which possesses lots of minerals. Differing from other sparkling wines, the calcium-rich soil has given this Chardonnay lots of elegance. The next two wines were Trio wines: unusual, because these are blends of three outstanding wines, each from a different valley, with either the Chardonnay, the Merlot or the Cabernet Sauvignon playing starring roles. The Trio's are an innovative way of blending, making them trendy, modern and young: something different!

On with the Marques de Casa Conch, a 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, robust and impressive, ruby velvet in color. The Casillero del Diablor Reserva Privada was robust as well, having been made with 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 50% Syrah. Applause sounded at the end of the seminar; after that the level of noise grew as the wines went down. A great learning experience! □



guest of honor at a fantastic dinner in the Sunset Grille at the Radisson. Friday evening was reserved for a 'vertical tasting', a most interesting happening at La Bodega. As central and north Chile is made up of valleys, each with its own specific climate and soil, the country is a winemaker's dream. Concha y Toro is the largest winery in South America and the third-largest in the world, with 7,000 hectares and fifteen resident winemakers. In 1933 the first shipment of wines arrived in Holland, with countless others to follow. "Making wine requires a delicate balance between mankind and nature," was said in the promotional video that was shown. Judging from the spectacular wines that were tasted during Karine's visit, Concha y Toro has found that balance.

The tasting started with an impressive Casillo del Diablo sparkling wine: a



Children under 10 eat for free off the Kid's Menu Father's Day special at Fishes & More

Give all the Fathers a special seafood platter filled with grouper, snapper, and mahi, pan fried in garlic butter and served with shrimp scallops and mussels. Enjoy this Father's Day special with a nice glass of complementary wine for 2 PEOPLE for only \$45.

All kids from 10 years old and younger can order anything off our kids menu for free!



Fishes & More specialize in fresh fish and seafood, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to our

dishes. Influences from all over the world are found back on the menu and they are already well known for our daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes &

More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work only with fresh and honest products! Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as we have a kids playground and a kids menu to entertain them, so they can enjoy their dinner as much as you will yours!

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People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks, a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website www.bugaloe.com and you will see at one glance what we are talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook.



**Bugaloe is located at
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Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on.

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Bugaloe Beach Bar puts on live bands on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

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The party's spectacular beachfront location was further enhanced by the lounge decor created by ECO Destination Management Services of Aruba.

The chef's of the Sunset Grille, the resort's AAA Four Diamond rated restaurant dazzled guests





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butler passed hors d'oeuvres of Plantain Tostones with Shredded Garlic Pork and Spicy Papaya-Lime Salsa; Cucumber Cups with Caribbean Red Snapper Ceviche; Toasted Maize Canapés with Smoked Chipotle Cream and Wild Mushrooms; Spicy Wahoo and Shrimp Fritters with Island Pineapple-Chile

Dipping Sauce; and Sweet Plantain with Gouda, Lobster Claw and Anise-Vanilla Glaze. The party was attended by the resort's sales and marketing executives and the Aruba Tourism Authority representatives, and entertained with live music by Ricardo "Pasto" Gonzalez.



Louis Vuitton presents its pre-fall collection 2009



Oranjestad, June 2009- -- World-famous French fashion house Louis Vuitton introduces its women's Prefall 2009 collection. For this collection, designer Marc Jacobs returned to the '40s theme with the mood becoming simpler, the silhouettes softer, the colours more subdued. What remains is the luxury - the lace, the rich embroideries and a touch of fur.

While tailoring remains structured, the focus shifts from the shoulders to the waist, with belted coats and fitted jackets, the latter balanced by pencil-slim or full ballerina skirts. Ladylike sleeves stop just above the wrist, while cropped pants reveal a well-turned ankle.

Dresses play a leading role, with a fitted, short-sleeved dress in beige wool worn over a fine polo-neck for the day; while two softer designs in silk showcase the season's key prints: a bold paisley pattern in rich burgundy and orange stands out on a neat shift, while a ribbon print twirls on a draped dress with a high, ruffled neck.

Blue, burgundy and beige are joined in the colour palette by the staple charcoal grey on a sharply tailored skirt suit, or a full-length belted coat with a broad fur collar.

Black moves elegantly from day to evening with rich textural effects. A sweeping silk gown is edged with lace, while a shocking pink cocktail dress reveals its black lining. The tuxedo comes with wide cropped pants and a jacket worn open over a white ruffled



blouse.

The season's stand-out ribbon motif makes its way onto accessories including wool hairclips, high-waisted belts, soft lambskin gloves, retro-chic sunglasses and a short mink polka dot scarf. Fashion jewellery plays on elaborately beaded outside brooches. Shoes tower on oversized platforms and high, slender

heels. They are given a sophisticated evening feel in richly coloured satin and velvet, embellished with bows, tassels and sequined embroidery.

The bag of the season comes with supple pleats, tassels and a drawstring in a mix of shiny leather and soft monogramme-embossed suede in taupe and brown. □



Dominica monitors impact of swine flu on cruise ships

BY Shermain Bique, News Editor

Tourism Minister Ian Douglas says that before Dominica could take any drastic measure regarding visitors to its shores and the H1N1 Virus, a number of factors must be taken into consideration. Health authorities in Grenada, St. Lucia and Antigua this week refused to allow the luxury cruise ship "Ocean Dream" to dock after some of the crew and passengers exhibited symptoms of the Swine Flu. But Douglas says Dominica's ports are properly equipped with healthy officials in that regard, and it will not take any unnecessary measures that will affect its tourism industry. "Dominica is monitoring the situation with the best preventative and monitoring measures in place for any incidents of swine flu into our borders. We will look at the situation because every situation is unique. We have to be careful because any premature decision could jeopardize our tourism industry", he said in an interview with Dominica News Online on Thursday. According to Douglas, Dominica is also working in close collaboration with the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association in that regard. "We are also in close contact with the captain and other senior crew on every vessel to ensure that any incident of swine flu is reported immediately. I think every situation needs to be looked at on a case to case basis. I think without proper evidence recalling a vessel is not the prudent way to go," he said. Official statistics show there are 120 infections in the Caribbean, 91 of them in the Dominican Republic, where the only Swine Flu death has been recorded in the region. The Bahamas, Barbados, the Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago are the other Caribbean countries listed by the UN health agency as having confirmed cases of the virus. □



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**"FAVI FUNDACION
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Central Govt to set up branches of several entities in St. Maarte

~ St. Maarten scores big at preparatory meeting ~

PHILIPSBURG -- The Central Government has committed to start setting up, as much as possible, branches of its ministries, agencies and departments in St. Maarten, as the Island Territory forges ahead with plans to attain country status.

This was one of the major decisions hammered out during Thursday's preparatory meeting attended by representatives of the Central Government, Curaçao and St. Maarten in preparation for next week's Political Steering Group meeting, which will also be attended by the Netherlands. The establishment of the Central Government-based branches here is expected

to help St. Maarten set up the infrastructure, assume certain critical functions and gain experience in executing certain tasks essential to the effective functioning of Country St. Maarten.

The cost of such an exercise could not be ascertained last night. However, Constitutional and Home Affairs Minister Roland Duncan said it would be borne by the Central Government. Duncan called this latest development a "breakthrough" and a "major stride." He said the details were still being ironed out, but the parties would meet again on Tuesday to finalise the agreement which is likely to be inked next week.

"I may be biased, but I am proud. He [St. Maarten's Commissioner of Constitutional Affairs William Marlin] made a good breakthrough. He did a good job on his first day in charge of a delegation from St. Maarten. There is a new sheriff in town."

Duncan said that once the branches were established in St. Maarten, they would have to be staffed and expertise from the Central Government departments in question would have to be brought in to help out where necessary. The Minister estimated that about 40 Central Government departments, agencies, ministries and inspectorates currently existed exclusively

in Curaçao and carried out functions for the islands of the Netherlands Antilles constellation.

These include the Inspectorate of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, National Archives, and Inspectorates of Health, Shipping, Weights and Measures, and Finance.

"They will be setting up full-fledged Central Government branches. They will establish them by law and the current government can mandate to execute those duties and people can be put into place, particularly a quartermaster, to execute and look for people," Duncan told The Daily Herald in a telephone interview from Curaçao late Thursday night.

He said that at the start of Thursday's meeting Marlin had been critical of the fact that certain functions were being executed exclusively in Curaçao and certain departments were based only there, thereby placing St. Maarten at a disadvantage.

HesaidMarlinhadalsoargued that Curaçao could achieve Country Status tomorrow if it wanted, because it had all the necessary departments and the administrative infrastructure in place to do so. "St. Maarten was at a disadvantage, because you can't start something that isn't there," Duncan argued. "The superstructure that runs the police is in Curaçao and not in St. Maarten, for example. When they establish these branches and they are physically [in St. Maarten], they can be expanded as need be. They don't have to be as big as the departments in Curaçao," he said.

"The Central Government has to pay for the establishment of these branches, but in terms of staffing, St. Maarten has to contribute. It would be convenient to have someone to guide the establishment of an office or branch."

Marlin and Duncan are expected to meet with Dutch State Secretary for Interior and Kingdom Relations

Ank Bijleveld-Schouten in Curaçao next week Tuesday at 4:00pm.

Marlin had told reporters in St. Maarten on Wednesday that his meeting with Bijleveld-Schouten would be a formal familiarisation meeting. It will be his first with her in his new capacity as "Leader of Government" and with the Constitutional portfolio.

"It is a meeting where we will get to know each other formally in terms of my position now as Commissioner of Constitutional Affairs. Of course, I know the State Secretary and she knows me. We have met many times before, but this will be the first time that we will be meeting since this new government has taken office."

Next week's political discussions are expected to start on Wednesday and focus primarily on the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles. Duncan said parties would try to establish a "real date" to attain the new status. He stressed, however, that St. Maarten's goal for the Kingdom Charter to be amended and for the dismantling to take effect is January 2010.

The St. Maarten delegation at Thursday's meeting included Finance Commissioner Xavier Blackman and the advisory team comprising Chairman of the Workgroup for Constitutional Affairs Eugene Holiday, Dennis Richardson, Richard Gibson, Joane Dovale-Meit, Hiro Shigemoto, Luud Hakkens and Martin Hassink.

Former Constitutional Affairs Commissioner Sarah Wescot-Williams did not attend Thursday's meeting. (See related story).

The Curaçao delegation included Constitutional Affairs Commissioner Zita Jesus-Leito, Finance Minister Mike Willem and their advisers. Prime Minister Emily de Jongh Elhage was also in attendance. (Judy H. Fitzpatrick) □



Father's Day...

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FROM 5:30-10 PM.

FATHER'S DAY MENU

Appetizers	SUNSET SALAD WITH FRESH TOMATOES, DEEP FRIED CHICKEN BITES, GARLIC CIABATTA CROUTONS AND BASIL BALSAMIC DRIZZLE <i>Or</i> FISH SOUP DOS PLAYAS
Main Course	TWIN Tournedos of Beef Tenderloin topped with Lobster Medallions, served with Green Asparagus, Hollandaise, Red Port Reduction and Truffle Mashed Potato <i>Or</i> TRIO OF RED SNAPPER CREOLE, MAHI MAHI WITH GARLIC SAUCE AND SALMON WITH CREAMY HERB SAUCE, SERVED WITH RICE, BANANA HASA AND VEGETABLES
Dessert	CASHEW CAKE <i>Or</i> TROPICAL MARINATED KIWI AND MANGO WITH PINEAPPLE SHERBET AND TOASTED COCONUT FLAKES

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Sarah stays away from political prep meeting

~ Says Marlin can address issues of which he was critical ~

PHILIPSBURG -- Democratic Party (DP) leader Island Councilwoman Sarah Wescot-Williams did not attend Thursday's political meeting in Curaçao.

She was expected to be part of the St. Maarten delegation that travelled to Curaçao on Wednesday for a preparatory meeting to lay the foundation for next week's Political Steering Group meeting to be attended by representatives of the Netherlands Antilles, the Netherlands, St. Maarten and Curaçao.

The former constitutional affairs commissioner said it was incumbent on current Commissioner William Marlin to explain how he intends to continue the process to achieve separate status for St. Maarten.

"This is Commissioner William Marlin's opportunity to explain to the Central Government and the government of Curaçao how he plans to further the cause of St. Maarten's constitutional future," she

said.

Marlin had told reporters on Wednesday that Wescot-Williams was expected to be part of the St. Maarten delegation at Thursday's meeting, which would have been preceded by a preparatory meeting of the St. Maarten delegation comprising both politicians and advisors in Curaçao Wednesday night.

Wescot-Williams, contending that Marlin had been very critical of the way she had been handling the constitutional affairs portfolio, told The Daily Herald: "He has been critical of the fact that, in his opinion, not enough persons [were] part of the process of constitutional change. He has criticised the slow pace of matters like the gaming control board, a code of conduct, corruption, communication. Etc. ...

"With the National Alliance Minister, Mr. Roland Duncan, who has also criticised the role of KPMG, it is expected that Commissioner William

Marlin will address especially these matters with the Central Government and give his plans as to how he will proceed. He will also have to be very clear on these matters and more

as he faces [Dutch] State Secretary [for Interior and Kingdom Relations Ank] Bijleveld-[Schouten] in the Political Steering Group [meeting], scheduled for next week."

Commissioner responsible for Constitutional Affairs over the last 10 years, Wescot-Williams has been a leading proponent of constitutional change for St. Maarten.

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Sunday June 21st

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Shrimp & scallop ceviche

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DRIVE



MPC announces central exam results to PKL, TKL students

ST. PETERS--Of 95 PKL/PLB Milton Peters College (MPC) students, only four failed their final exams. Some 33 students will have to re-sit one or two exams next week, mostly in math

and economics, they learned at school on Thursday. TKL students also heard whether they had passed their exams Thursday. Some 55 per cent did, so far. TKL Department Head

Antonio Aventurin hopes to see that percentage rise to 60 or even 65 after the re-sits next week. "The central exams have not been made very well," explained Aventurin. "A

lot of students will have to re-sit Spanish or failed that subject altogether." It might have to do with the fact that the central exams for Spanish are made in Curaçao, he said. "The

level at which people speak Spanish is much higher in Curaçao, so that could explain why our students had a hard time with that particular exam."

The PKL/PBL students had a higher success rate. Some 61 per cent passed the final stage of their studies at MPC. That percentage too will grow after next week, when the re-sits are finished.

"Math has proved especially hard for our students over the years, so we are not surprised that it is the case again this year," explained Department Head Vital Carty. Most students who failed or need to re-sit an exam did so because of math or economics.

"Without pointing fingers, we suspect math is a problem that already starts developing in elementary school and seriously needs to be faced," said Carty. He said he had good hopes for students who had to re-sit an exam.

Altogether, there were more happy faces than sad ones at school Thursday afternoon. HAVO and VWO students' results will be announced at the school today, Friday. □

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Game 9 Afl 1000,-	Game 10 Progresivo after 51 calls Afl. 1000,-
Game 11 Afl 6500,-	Door Prizes ... 5 x Afl 100,-



Stocks log first weekly loss since early May

By **TIM PARADIS** and **SARA LEPRO**,

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — Caution has once again overcome the stock market.

Stocks finished mixed Friday, leaving all the major indexes with their first weekly loss since early May. Tech, financial and retail stocks gained, while utilities and energy stocks were lower.

The market began the day stronger, following surprisingly good reports the day before on jobs and manufacturing. But the early gains gave way to selling in the afternoon, saddling the Dow Jones industrials with four days of losses over the past five.

With little in the way of corporate or economic news Friday, prospects were poor for restarting a rally that powered the market up as much as 40 percent this spring after hitting its lowest level in more than a decade in early

March. Traders have grown worried in recent weeks that an economic recovery may be more subdued than originally hoped and that the huge run-up in stocks may have been overdone.

"There's no question in my mind that the economy is improving," said Phil Orlando, chief equity market strategist at Federated Investors. "But investors are betting on some sideways consolidation rather than a continuation of a sharp spike in share prices."

Trading was also jumpy because of the occurrence of a quarterly "quadruple witching," which marks the simultaneous expiration of four different kinds of options and futures contracts.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 15.87, or 0.2 percent, to 8,539.73, with 16 of the 30 stocks that make up the average posting losses. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.86,

or 0.3 percent, to 921.23 and the Nasdaq composite index gained 19.75, or 1.1 percent, to 1,827.47.

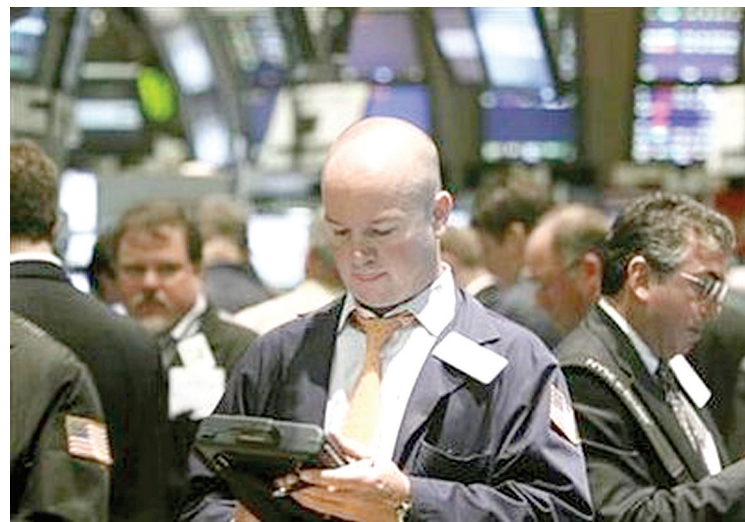
About three stocks rose for every two that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to a heavy 2.13 billion shares, compared with 1.09 billion shares at the end of trading Thursday.

All the major indexes closed the week down for the first time since the week of May 11.

The Dow lost 3 percent, the S&P 500 index fell 2.6 percent, and the Nasdaq shed 1.7 percent.

Stocks tumbled early in the week as a handful of weak economic reports, including news of a seventh straight monthly drop in industrial production, bucked sharply with the gradual improvement traders had grown used to with other economic readings.

Stocks rebounded modestly on Thursday, spurred by



a series of better data on economic activity, including a report that showed the overall number of people drawing unemployment benefits fell last week for the first time since early January.

Traders have been anticipating a pullback after such big gains in such a short period. Usually, a 40 percent move like the one in the S&P 500 index takes years to develop, not months. "It's not going to be a one-way ride," said Keith Walter,

portfolio manager of Artio Global Equity Fund.

Analysts are divided over whether the market's pullback this week has more to go, or if it can now move higher after back-to-back weeks of relatively sideways movement. Last week all the major indexes rose less than 1 percent. Many predict choppy trading well through the summer, when there is typically less volume, and as the market heads into earnings season in July. □

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The authentic local seafood restaurant.

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lovers dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



Special of the month

Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

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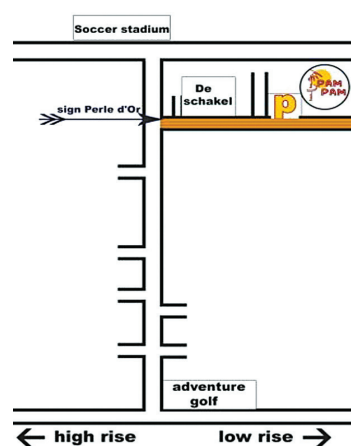


Pam-Pam Café, located in the charming Perle D'Or Resort in Bubali, is the place to be on Friday evenings for a great taste of regional music, dance, food and hospitality, as proprietors and hosts Nico and Monique van de Borne welcome guests for their weekly "Latin Night."

Pam-Pam Café is situated in a delightful tropical setting that is the perfect backdrop for a show by 2002 World Salsa Champions Janice and Oslin Boekhoudt, who run their Pachanga Dance School

out Perle D'Or. They and their dance troupe put on a show of the exotic Zouk, originating from the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, and inspiration for the Brazilian Lambada. If their sensual movements inspire any audience members, they can sign up at Pam-Pam for private dance lessons from the Pachanga crew, which also teach Salsa and Merengue.

In addition to the island music and dance, reasonably prices snacks (10.50 in Aruban florins (\$6) for an Assorted Snack Platter or Buffalo Wings among



other choices) and cocktails are available throughout the evening. From 11 PM until closing time, Pam-Pam offers a special on top shelf whiskey for only 6 Aruban



florins (\$3.50)

If you are looking for the "real deal" in Caribbean entertainment and ambiance and a chance to rub elbows with islanders, schedule Pam-Pam Café as your Friday night entertainment!

Pam Pam restaurant

First-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced, and main courses, (25) which are priced between \$13 / \$22.

Pam-Pam's house specialty is a unique method of preparation, which presently,

in Aruba, is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "Gourmet Meal." A grill and a collection of the freshest of ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providing a unique and personal taste treat. It is suggested that reservations for this singular dining experience be made one day in advance.

When you want to see restaurants menu, visit: www.visitaruba.com Phone; 5877710 or 5932660



From left, Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., D-Fla., Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., House Education and Labor Committee Chairman Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., and House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., take part in health care news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, June 19, 2009.

Associated Press

Senate off to a rocky start on health care

RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate on Wednesday began writing legislation to revamp the U.S. health care system, but its historic first step was overshadowed by partisan anger and cost problems that troubled lawmakers on both sides.

An ambitious timetable that called for completing committee action in early summer seemed in danger of slipping away.

The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee began work on a bill encompassing President Barack Obama's top legislative priority. It marked the first time since President Bill Clinton's ill-starred attempt in the early 1990s that Congress was tackling such a broad overhaul.

High costs, uneven health

care and nearly 50 million uninsured have created the strongest political momentum for remaking the system in decades.

Unlike other major industrialized countries, the U.S. does not have a government-run health care system.

But the more important Senate Finance Committee announced it would delay action, as senators sought to retool their proposals to slash the cost by more than one-third, from an initial \$1.6 trillion over 10 years, to less than \$1 trillion. Of the five major panels working on health care, Finance has the best odds of coming up with a bipartisan proposal that could overcome gathering opposition.

Lobbyists from every nook and cranny of the economy were on high alert — even if they were on their best behavior.

Continued on Next Page



In this May 11, 2009 file photo, U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent leaves the Houston federal courthouse.

Associated Press

House impeaches federal judge from Texas

See Page B4

Veteran CBS newsman Walter Cronkite reported ill

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. veteran newsman Walter Cronkite, who was the face of CBS television news for more than two decades, is reported to be gravely ill.

The 92-year-old former anchor of "The CBS Evening News," who has been ailing for some time, has apparently taken a turn for the worse, according to TVNewser and other online sites.

CBS News spokesman Kevin Tedesco had no comment on Friday.

Bob Schieffer said, "All of us are praying for the best, and our thoughts are with Walter's family." The host of CBS' "Face the Nation" and a longtime Cronkite colleague, Schieffer noted that he had no current news on Cronkite's condition.

Cronkite was named "the most trusted man in America" in a 1972 "trust index" survey, and he ended each broadcast with the reassuring signoff, "And that's the way it is."



In this photo taken on Sept. 24, 2007, former news anchor Walter Cronkite arrives at the Metropolitan Opera 2007-08 season opening gala.

Associated Press

He left the "Evening News" anchor desk in 1981, but after that kept a busy schedule both in journalistic and other activities.

For 24 years, he served as onsite host for New Year's Day telecasts by the Vienna Philharmonic until ill health forced him to bow out earlier this year. □

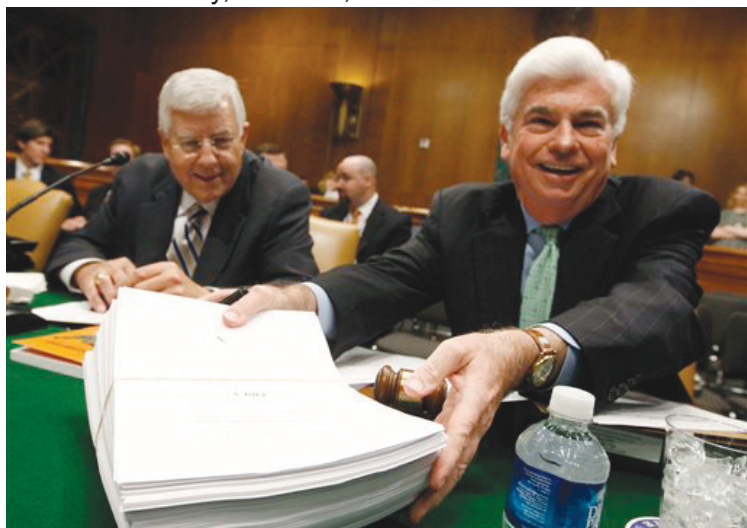


Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, delivers his sermon in front of a picture of the late spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini, during the Friday prayers, at the Tehran University campus, in Tehran, Iran, Friday, June 19, 2009.

Associated Press

Iran's supreme leader: End protests or risk 'bloodshed'

See Page B6



Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., right, accompanied by Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee ranking Republican Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., presents a stack of documents comprising of the health care reform bill during the committee's markup hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, June 17, 2009.

Associated Press

HEALTH CARE

Continued from Page B1

Majority Democrats running the Finance Committee have told lobbyists that their views will be taken into account as long as their groups do not mount public campaigns against the legislation, numerous lobbyists say. So far, health industry groups have

not launched any aggressive attacks against Democrats' emerging plans.

"We have a lot of sweat equity in this process," said E. Neil Trautwein, chief health care lobbyist for the National Retail Federation, referring to hundreds of hours his group has spent with lawmakers as they prepared its legislation.

He predicted the bill would prove too costly and force lawmakers to pare it down — or else.

"We need cost relief," he said. "But if comes to the point where we have to cut and run and build a coalition" to oppose the bill, "we'll take that step."

The health committee, which got to work Wednesday, is chaired by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, a Democrat, and divided along ideological lines. It is expected to produce a bill that heavily reflects the wishes of Democrats, but may not be able to pass the full Senate.

Much of the day was taken up with speechmaking.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, a Democrat is overseeing the proceedings in place of Kennedy, who is being treated for brain cancer. "My intention is not to jam anything," Dodd told wary committee Republicans, who say the bill is incomplete, too costly and too one-sided.

"This bill contains policies

designed to appease a particular ideology," said Sen. Mike Enzi, the top Republican on the panel.

The complex legislation attempts to slow punishing increases in health care costs, thus freeing up money to cover the nearly 50 million uninsured.

It would boost government subsidies for health insurance, and create new purchasing pools called "exchanges" for individuals and small businesses to buy coverage.

Most people who have employer-provided coverage would be able to keep their plan.

But health care touches every family, and that makes it very difficult to engineer any major changes.

The 1990s Clinton initiative collapsed and the latest attempt has hardly been smooth.

Underscoring the difficulty was word Wednesday that the Finance Committee, which had promised a draft as early as this week, has been forced to delay its deliberations,

perhaps until after Congress' July 4th recess.

Sen. Kent Conrad, a Democrat, said that proposed changes that sweetened government subsidies to the uninsured had unexpectedly boosted the cost, and now lawmakers must trim back.

Finance Chairman Max Baucus, a Democrat, said the goal is a bill that costs less than \$1 trillion over 10 years and is fully paid for. "We'll be ready when we're ready, but we're not there yet."

The measure before Kennedy's committee would cost about \$1 trillion over 10 years, but leave 37 million people uninsured, according to an analysis from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. Parts of the draft bill have yet to be finalized, so its true costs and benefits are not fully understood.

Majority Democrats in the House could make their bill public this week, with committee votes after Congress returns from its July 4 recess. □



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Ensign aide: Ex-mistress' husband wanted money

LAS VEGAS – The husband of Sen. John Ensign's former mistress made "exorbitant demands for cash and other financial benefits" through an attorney, an aide to the Nevada Republican said Friday. In a statement, Ensign spokesman Tory Mazzola said the demands from an attorney for Doug Hampton were made within the past month.

"The demands were referred to Senator Ensign's legal counsel, who is handling the matter going forward," the statement said.

Mazzola did not name the attorney nor immediately respond to requests for additional details.

Hampton's lawyer, Daniel Albregts, did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

The FBI in Las Vegas and Las Vegas police said Friday they were not investigating the matter.

Unconfirmed reports that Doug Hampton was pressuring Ensign for money have circulated since the senator abruptly came forward Tuesday and confessed to a nine-month extramarital affair with Cindy Hampton, his former campaign treasurer and Hampton's wife.

Until Friday, the senator's office had not responded to questions about the allegations.

Ensign, 51, has said he intends to remain in the Senate, though he resigned as head of the Republican Policy Committee, the fourth-ranking spot in the leadership.

The statement came hours after the Las Vegas Sun published a letter from Doug Hampton to a news organization asking it to expose the senator's "unethical behavior and immoral choice." The nearly 1,000-word letter to Fox News anchorwoman Megyn Kelly accuses Ensign

of "heinous conduct and pursuit" of Cindy Hampton, even after both had left their jobs working for Ensign.

A source close to the Hamptons confirmed the letter was written by Doug Hampton. The individual was not authorized to discuss the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Cindy Hampton, 46, was a campaign treasurer for two committees connected to the senator. Doug Hampton served as an administrative assistant on Ensign's Senate staff. Neither have worked for Ensign since May 2008.

The senator acknowledged the affair continued until August 2008.

"Senator Ensign's conduct and relentless pursuit of my wife led to our dismissal in April of 2008," Doug Hampton wrote. "The actions of Senator Ensign have ruined our lives and careers and left my family



Doug Hampton, a former aide to Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., is pictured outside his home, Friday, June 19, 2009 in Las Vegas. Hampton is the husband of former campaign worker Cindy Hampton, with whom Sen. Ensign on Tuesday admitted to a nine-month affair.

Associated Press

in shambles."

Ensign's office has said the senator hastily called a news briefing to admit his infidelity after it learned that Doug Hampton had approached a media outlet about the affair. Asked if Fox News received the letter, a company spokeswoman referred the AP to comments from one

of its producers that were reported on the Huffington Post, a Web site. Tom Lowell, senior producer of "America's Newsroom," told the Web site that a booker on the show received an e-mail from Hampton with the letter attached on June 15, the day before Ensign's appearance before reporters. □

Fathers Day Brunch

and Family Day at the Pool Area

Sponsored by:

KEEP WALKING.
JOHNNIE WALKER.



Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Salad Station

Caribbean Potato Salad, Oriental Red Cabbage Salad, Mixed Greens with assorted dressings, Mango Coconut Curry Chicken Salad, Tomato and Cucumber Salad

From the Grill

Marinated Chicken Legs, Asian Marinated Loin Ribs, Argentinean Sausage, Hamburgers and Hotdog with Condiments, Corn on the Cob in Honey Milk, Stuffed Baked Potatoes, Pork and Beans in Tomato Sauce with Chorizo, B.B.Q. Sauce, Garlic Herb sauce, Peanut Butter Sauce, Thai Sweet Chili Sauce

Omelet Station

Your Omelet made to order
With choices of:
Green Peppers, Mushroom, Onions, Cheese, Bacon, Ham, green Scallions

Soup Station

Soppi di Okra cu Pisca y Rabo di Porco

Dessert Station

Strawberry Cake, Bolo di Cashipete, Pan Bojo with Vanilla Sauce, Bolo di Chateau, Bolo di Pruim, Cheese Cake, and Pineapple-Upside Down Cake

The Caribbean

Assorted seafood in coconut curry sauce, Red Snapper Filet with Creole Sauce, Smoked Salmon with Capers, Chopped Red Onions, and Honey Mustard Dressing, Keshi Yena with Chicken, Beef Stoba with Pan Bati, Seafood Tempera, Arroz Moro, Corn Polenta, Seasonal Vegetables, Fried Plantain

Ice Cream Station

Vanilla and Chocolate Ice Cream, assorted toppings, and Sugar cone Waffles

The Carvey

Cuban style whole Roasted Pork Leg, Herbed Marinated Argentinean Tenderloin, Fresh Baked Bread and Rolls, Herbed Butter, Fresh Baked Bread and Rolls

Coffee and Tea Station

Regular, Decaf Coffee, and Assorted Teas

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No perjury charge for Senator Burris



This photo taken Wednesday, June 17, 2009, shows Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill. at the Senate Democratic Green Jobs Summit on Capitol Hill in Washington. Burris will not be charged with perjury for statements he made before an Illinois House impeachment committee because there isn't enough evidence to support the charge, the state prosecutor investigating the case said Friday.

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois (AP) — An Illinois prosecutor says the US Senator appointed to fill President Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat will not be charged with perjury.

State's Attorney John Schmidt said Friday Sen. Roland Burris will not be charged because while the circumstances surrounding his controversial appointment to the Senate by then-Gov. Rod Blagojevich were vague, they wouldn't support a perjury charge.

The Illinois Democrat still faces in investigation by the Senate

Ethics Committee, which is looking into the circumstances of Burris' appointment to the Senate. That committee, however, hasn't voted to oust a sitting member since the Civil War era.

Burris, 71, was appointed by former Gov. Rod Blagojevich after the FBI arrested the governor on corruption charges, including allegations he tried to sell the seat for political donations.

"I am obviously very pleased with today's decision by State's Attorney John Schmidt. His investigation was both thorough and fair, and I am glad that the truth has prevailed," Burris said in a statement.

Blagojevich's publicist did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

Burris initially told the committee he had no contact with Blagojevich or his supporters, but later revealed he had talked to several aides and had discussed hosting a fundraiser.

The new senator has been under intense scrutiny because of the circumstances surrounding his appointment and for changing his story multiple times about whether he promised anything for Blagojevich in exchange for the seat.

The ethics committee began a preliminary investigation into how Burris got his job, and the State's Attorney was asked to determine whether perjury charges were warranted.

Burris has repeatedly denied wrongdoing, and asserted his appointment to the Senate was clean.

According to a wiretap transcript of conversations between Burris and Robert Blagojevich, the former governor's brother, Burris promised to "personally do something" for the then-governor's campaign fund while pressing Blagojevich to appoint him to the seat. Earlier in the conversation, Burris and Robert Blagojevich explored the possibility that Burris might raise campaign money on a larger scale. □

House impeaches federal judge from Texas

SUZANNE GAMBOA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House of Representatives impeached on Friday a federal judge imprisoned for lying about sexual assaults of two women in the first such vote since the impeachment of former President Bill Clinton a decade ago.

The impeachment of U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent of Texas sets up a trial in the Senate. Kent is the first federal judge impeached in 20 years.

The House approved four articles of impeachment against Kent, accusing him of sexually assaulting two female employees and lying to judicial investigators and Justice Department officials. All four articles passed unanimously.

"The conduct at issue here is both shocking and shameful," Democratic Rep. John Conyers, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said at the start of the debate.

Kent, 59, entered a federal prison in Massachusetts on Monday to serve a 33-month sentence. He pleaded guilty last month to lying to judicial investigators about sexual assaults of two female employees.

Kent is refusing to resign until next year so he can continue to draw his \$174,000 a year salary. If the Senate should convict him of the impeachment charges, he would be forced off the bench.

Texas Rep. Lamar Smith, the top Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, said he was not unsympathetic to Kent, who has said he has suffered depression since his first wife's death and had problems with alcohol abuse. But Smith said Kent does not have the right to continue as a federal judge and collect his salary.

"It is now time for justice: justice for the American people who have been exploited by a judge who violated his oath of office," Smith said. □

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City drops request for Internet passwords

MATT GOURAS

Associated Press Writer

HELENA, Montana (AP) — A flood of criticism has prompted a Montana city to drop its request that government job applicants turn over their user names and passwords to Internet social networking and Web groups.

The city of Bozeman abruptly suspended the practice Friday, saying it “appears to have exceeded that which is acceptable to our

community.”

“We appreciate the concern many citizens have expressed regarding this practice and apologize for the negative impact this issue is having on the City of Bozeman,” City Manager Chris A. Kukulski said in a release.

Since KBZK-TV of Bozeman reported on the policy Wednesday, Web forums have been abuzz over the issue. The American Civil Liberties Union of Montana

immediately questioned the legality of the policy.

“I liken it to them saying they want to look at your love letters and your family photos,” said Amy Cannata of the Montana ACLU. “I think this policy certainly crosses the privacy line.”

The city initially argued that it only used the information to verify application information. People who refused to provide the information wouldn’t be penalized, the city said.

Google tricycle snaps views from walkways

RON TODT

Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Google’s Street View cameras are now traveling by bike to capture images of some areas not accessible by cars.

The tricycle, mounted with an 8-foot high camera, has been rolling around the pedestrian walkways of the University of Pennsylvania to collect panoramic images of the campus for Google Maps’ Street View feature, which gives users detailed, street-level views of map locations over the Internet. Google Inc. has been using car-mounted cameras to prowl streets in the U.S. and around the world. The human-powered version allows coverage of pedestrian-only areas on campuses, in public parks and at theme parks, as well as along hiking and bicycling trails, as Google seeks to expand coverage of its maps. The tricycle has also been cruising around other colleges and universities, Google spokesman Sean Carlson said. It has also been seen cruising past Rome’s Trevi fountain, at Santa Monica’s Third Street promenade in California and pier and along a Monterey, California bicycle trail.

The effort comes as Google faces complaints from many individuals and institutions that have been photographed around the world. Since launching in 2007, Street View has expanded to more than 100 cities worldwide. □

Google cartographer Dexter Harris rides a tricycle equipped with cameras through the campus of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia Friday, June 19, 2009. The internet search engine has started taking pictures at the University of Pennsylvania so that it can add college campuses to its Google Maps service.

Associated Press



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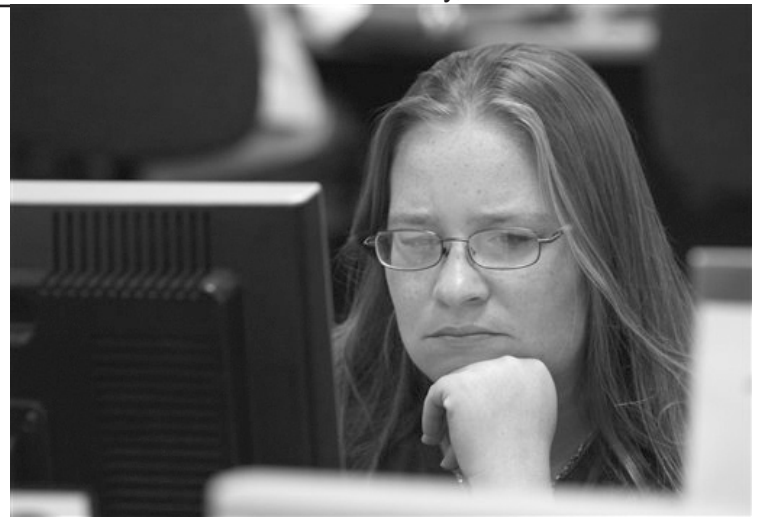
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Rachael Eubanks, 26, a single mother, looks at job postings on a computer at the California Employment Development Department office in Sacramento, Calif., Friday, June 19, 2009. California’s unemployment rate climbed to 11.5 percent in May, the highest in modern records-keeping the U. S. Department of Labor reported Friday.

Associated Press

An excerpt from the city application form said, “Please list any and all current personal or business Web sites, web pages or memberships on any Internet-based chat rooms, social clubs or forums, to include, but not limited to: Facebook, Google, Yahoo, YouTube.com, MySpace, etc.” Rep. Brady Wiseman, a Bozeman Democrat, led the state’s fight against the Patriot Act when the Legislature issued a harsh critique of the federal act, arguing it trampled civil liberties and put the

government into a position of snooping on citizens.

Wiseman said Bozeman had gone too far.

“Asking for passwords is over the line,” Wiseman said. “I think that this notion opens up a whole new line of debate on privacy.”

The ACLU has not found another government body that asks for such information, Cannata said.

“It’s one thing, and I think totally reasonable, if someone has a public profile to go check it out,” she said. □

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Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, right, listens to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's speech, as parliament speaker Ali Larijani, center, sits, during the Friday prayers, at the Tehran University campus, in Tehran, Iran, Friday, June 19, 2009.

Associated Press

Iran's supreme leader: End protests or risk 'bloodshed'

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press Writers

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's supreme leader sought Friday to end the deepening crisis over disputed elections with one decisive speech — declaring the vote will almost certainly stand and sternly warning opposition leaders to end street protests or be held responsible for any "bloodshed and chaos" to come.

But a first sign of possible resistance came shortly after nightfall in Tehran. Cries of "Death to the dictator!" and "Allahu akbar" — "God is great" — rang from rooftops in what's become a nightly ritual of opposition unity.

The sharp line drawn by Iran's most powerful figure, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, is a gambit that pushes Iran's opposition to a pivotal moment: either back down or risk a crushing

response from police and the forces at Khamenei's disposal — the powerful Revolutionary Guard and their volunteer citizen militia, the Basiji.

It also presents important tests for opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi.

He now must examine his willingness to challenge the Islamic leadership he once served as prime minister. There are further questions about his ability to control his own followers, who are waiting for a clear response to Khamenei's edict before a rally planned for Saturday.

Since the June 12 election, Mousavi has become the figurehead for a broad collection of demonstrators — from the most liberal-leaning reformists to religious conservatives — brought together by claims that fraud was behind the landslide re-election of President

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Some could be prepared to take their protests to the limit. Many others, however, have no interest in an all-out mutiny against the country's Islamic system and know authorities have the tools to strike back without mercy.

Khamenei was blunt about what a wider fight would bring — warning those who "want to ignore the law or break the law" will face the consequences.

"They will be held accountable for all the violence, bloodshed and rioting," he told tens of thousands of people gathered for Friday prayers at Tehran University for a speech that was broadcast around Iran and the world.

Police clashed with protesters in running battles around Tehran immediately after the election and the Basiji militia had a reported role in attacks at the university. Gunfire from a Basiji compound in Tehran also left at least seven people dead Monday.

Khamenei even offered muted criticism of security forces, saying he objected to "misconducts" such as attacks on students.

But the full force of the police and Revolutionary Guard has remained in check. And this was Khamenei's implicit message since the Guard and the vast volunteer militia force it controls is under direct command of the ruling clerics.

As he concluded his sermon, Khamenei invoked the names of Shiite saints and began weeping.

Among the worshippers sitting on the carpeted floor of the mammoth prayer hall was Ahmadinejad in a tan jacket and one of his three election rivals, former Revolutionary Guard commander Mohsen Rezaei. Crowds spilled into the campus. Mousavi and candidate Mahdi Karroubi, the only cleric in the race, were not shown on state TV coverage and apparently did not attend. □



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U.N.: Colombia coca crop down; Peru and Bolivia up

FRANK BAJAK

Associated Press Writer

BOGOTA (AP) —

Colombia's coca crop shrank by nearly a fifth last year while cultivation of the bush that is the basis of cocaine rose in the world's two other coca-producing nations, Peru and Bolivia, the United Nations said Friday.

The U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime said the 18 percent reduction in Colombia from 2007 owed in part to the manual eradication — as opposed to aerial herbicide spraying — of 371 square miles of the crop.

The agency's annual survey of the Andes' coca crop and estimated cocaine production said cultivation in Colombia dropped to 81,000 hectares — the lowest since 2004 — while Bolivia's crop increased by 6 percent and Peru's by 4.5 percent.

It put Bolivia's coca crop last year at 117 square miles and Peru's at 216 square miles and said crop eradication was down in both countries, by 13 percent and 16 percent respectively.

In last year's report, it noted a 27 percent increase in coca cultivation in Colombia, the world's top producer of cocaine.

Estimated cocaine production in Colombia, meanwhile, was down 28 percent last year to 430 metric tons from 2007 — with 20,000 fewer households growing coca, the U.N. agency said.

Colombia analyst Adam Isacson, of the Washington-based Center for International Policy, cautioned about "one element that should keep the champagne corks from popping" in the Andean nation's government: Peasants who lost their

savings in collapsed pyramid schemes began replanting coca on a huge scale in October, he said.

That certainly offset, said Isacson, some of the gains reported by the U.N. from use of the herbicide glyphosate on 515 square miles of coca crop last year.

Neither Peru nor Bolivia use herbicides against coca and the United States complains that Bolivia is no longer a serious partner in combatting drugs after expelling U.S. drug agents last year for alleged espionage.

Nevertheless, the U.N. said drug trafficking was seriously disrupted overall in the region, with 200 tons of cocaine seized in Colombia, 22 tons in Bolivia and 12 tons in Peru.

"Peru must guard against a return to the days when terrorists and insurgents, like



Aldo Lale-Demoz, representative in Colombia for the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, gestures during a news conference in Bogota, Friday, June 19, 2009.

Associated Press

the Shining Path, profited from drugs and crime," agency director Mario Costa said in a statement.

Remnants of the Shining Path insurgency, which was nearly eradicated in the mid-1990s, control an area on the eastern slope of the Andes that the U.N. says is now the world's leading source of cocaine.

Lima-based drug trade analyst Jaime Antezana estimates actual cultivation

in Peru grew at least 7 percent.

"Peru still lacks an integral, national strategy that uses all available instruments," he said. Eradication only takes place in two of Peru's eight main coca-producing regions.

The U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime put Peru's production capacity last year at 302 tons compared to 113 tons for Bolivia. □

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World hunger reaches the 1 billion people mark



Indian boys eat near a garbage dump in New Delhi, India, Tuesday, June 2, 2009. More than 100 million people have joined the ranks of the hungry in South Asia due to fallout from the global financial crisis, bringing the number of the region's chronically hungry to a 40-year high, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

Associated Press

ALESSANDRA RIZZO
Associated Press Writer
ROME (AP) — More than a billion people — a sixth of the world's population — are now hungry, a

historic high due largely to the global economic crisis and stubbornly high food prices, a U.N. agency said Friday.

Compared with last year,

there are 100 million more people who are hungry, meaning they consume fewer than 1,800 calories a day, the Food and Agriculture Organization said.

Almost all the world's undernourished live in developing countries, where food prices have fallen more slowly than in the richer nations, the report said. Poor countries need more aid and agricultural investment to cope, it said.

"The silent hunger crisis, affecting one-sixth of all of humanity, poses a serious risk for world peace and security," said the agency's Director-General Jacques Diouf.

Officials presenting the new estimates in Rome sought to stress the link between hunger and peace, noting that soaring prices for staples, such as rice, triggered riots in the developing world last year. "Food security is one of our most critical peace and

security issues of our time," said Josette Sheeran of the World Food Program, another U.N. food agency based in Rome.

"A hungry world is a dangerous world," she told reporters.

Hunger increased despite strong cereal production in 2009, and a mild retreat in food prices from the highs of mid-2008. However, average prices at the end of last year were still 24 percent higher in real terms than in 2006, FAO said.

The global economic crisis has compounded the problem for people who must now deal with pay cuts or job losses. Individual countries have also lost flexibility in handling price fluctuations, as the crisis has made tools such as currency devaluation less effective.

The report said the urban poor would likely be hit hardest as foreign investment declines and demand for exports drops, and millions would return

to the countryside, which could put pressure on rural communities and resources.

Globally there are now about 1.02 billion people hungry, up 11 percent from last year's 915 million, the agency said. It based its estimate on an analysis by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Asia and the Pacific, the world's most populous region, has the largest number of hungry people, at 642 million.

Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest rate of hunger, with 265 million undernourished representing 32 percent of the region's population.

In the developed world, undernourishment is a growing concern, with 15 million now hungry, the report said.

The crisis also affects the quality of nutrition, as families tend to buy cheaper foods, such as grains, which are rich in calories but contain fewer proteins than meat or dairy products.

Diouf urged governments to immediately set up social protection programs to improve food access for those in need. He said small farmers should be helped with seeds, tools and fertilizers.

He urged structural, long-term changes, such as increasing production in low-income countries, noting that world hunger had been increasing before the financial downturn. □



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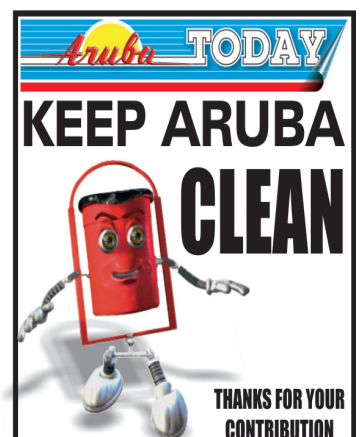
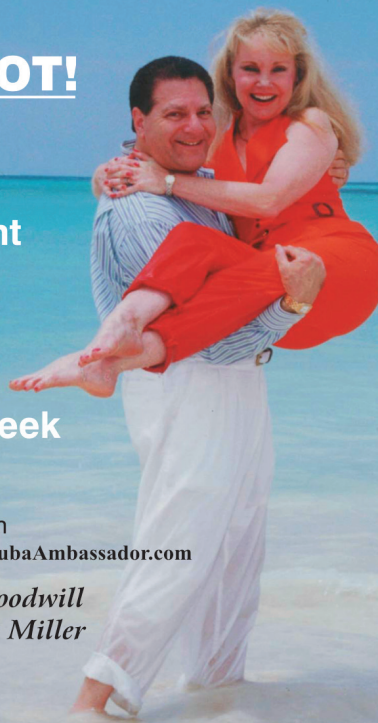
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Photo by Diane Keijzer



Ground forces move in for Pakistan offensive

ASIF SHAHZAD

Associated Press Writers

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistani ground troops moved into Taliban-controlled areas and engaged in the first gunbattle of a new offensive in the volatile northwest, as an aerial and artillery bombardment pounded other targets.

Officials said Friday's action did not represent the start of a full-scale operation in the tribal belt along the border with Afghanistan, but that most troops were now in place for when the orders came.

The coming operation in South Waziristan, along with one winding down in the Swat Valley further north, could be a turning point in Pakistan's yearslong and sometimes halfhearted fight against militancy.

It could also help the war effort in Afghanistan, because the tribal belt is believed to house key bases of al-Qaida and Taliban militants accused of launching attacks on Western and government forces in Afghanistan.

Washington strongly supports the operations, which are seen as a test of nuclear-armed Pakistan's resolve against an insurgency that has expanded in the past two years.

The Swat offensive has been generally welcomed in Pakistan, but public opinion could quickly turn if the government fails to effectively help more than 2 million people displaced from their homes by the fighting, or if civilian casualties mount.

South Waziristan government official Nematullah Khan said Friday that ground

troops had started taking up positions around strongholds of Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud, who is blamed for a series of suicide attacks in Pakistan that have killed more than 100 people since late May.

"Troops have entered Mehsud's areas" for the first time, Khan told The Associated Press.

Nearby, fighter bombers and artillery pounded suspected militant targets, flattening at least three suspected training facilities and killing or wounding several insurgents, two senior intelligence officials said.

The Taliban opened fire on troops elsewhere in the mountainous area, starting a gunbattle that lasted hours, said one of the intelligence officials, without giving any further details. It was the first



Pakistani Army soldiers move to their positions on top of a defense position on a former base of Taliban militants overlooking the Swat Valley, at Banai Baba Ziarat area, northwest of Pakistan's capital Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, May 22, 2009. Troops are encircling Taliban militants in their mountain base as well as the main town in the Swat Valley, a Pakistani general said Friday, as the U.N. appealed for US\$543 million to ease the suffering of nearly 2 million refugees from the fighting.

Associated Press

ground fighting since the military announced this week that the operation was on, but in its early stages.

The troop deployment in many areas of South Waziristan has been completed, and soldiers were moving toward strategic areas where large numbers of Taliban fighters were believed to be entrenched,

said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to give information to the media.

One of the officials said the military was blocking all roads that the militants could use to flee. Khan said a full-scale operation was still not under way. □



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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Weir grabs U.S. Open lead after a first-round 64

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

FARMINGDALE, New York (AP) — Sunshine made a cameo at Bethpage Black and Mike Weir seized on the drying fairways and soft greens on Friday with a 6-under 64, the lowest score in the U.S. Open in six years.

Despite a double bogey on his back nine, the former Masters champion closed with back-to-back birdies for a two-shot lead over Peter Hanson of Sweden.

Not long after he finished, Weir and the late starters headed back out for the second round.

"It's about as easy as this course will ever play," Weir said between rounds. "Our side definitely had a big



Mike Weir of Canada watches his drive on the 12th tee during the first round of the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Bethpage State Park's Black Course in Farmingdale, N.Y., Friday, June 19, 2009.

Associated Press

advantage. For us to be able to play in nice conditions all day like this is huge."

Phil Mickelson, whose popularity in New York shot up even more after disclosing his wife has breast cancer, challenged for the lead until he missed some short putts coming in and settled for a 69. Even after two bogeys on the last four holes, his spirits were high.

"We want to play as much golf as we can," Mickelson said. Of the 25 players who shot par or better in the first round, only seven came from the first wave of tee times. Graeme McDowell of Northern Ireland and American amateur Drew Weaver were the only early starters to break par.

Continued on Page 13

Defending champion Nadal withdraws from Wimbledon

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Defending champion Rafael Nadal withdrew from Wimbledon on Friday because of tendinitis in his knees. He is the first reigning men's champion to not defend the title since Goran Ivanisevic in 2002 — and only the second in the last 35 years. The grass-court Grand Slam tournament begins on Monday.

"I'm just not 100 percent," the No. 1-ranked Nadal said during a news conference at the All England Club. "I'm better than I was a couple of weeks ago, but I just don't feel ready."

His announcement came about 2½ hours after he lost to Stanislas Wawrinka in an exhibition on grass at Hurlingham Club in south London.

"Today was the last test,"

Nadal said. "I didn't feel terrible but not close to my best."

He also lost an exhibition there on Thursday against 2002 Wimbledon champion Lleyton Hewitt — and, coincidentally, Friday's draw for this year's tournament set those two up for a second-round meeting.

Nadal looked ragged during his straight-set loss against Hewitt on Thursday. But the Spaniard appeared in better condition against Wawrinka, several times racing toward the net for sharp volleys or scurrying along the baseline for winning groundstrokes on the run.

Still, Nadal said he just did not sense that he could win Wimbledon — and so he did not want to compete at all.

"When I start a tournament like Wimbledon, it is to try to win, and my feeling right

now is I'm not ready to play to win," the six-time major champion said.

Nadal has complained about his knees since a fourth-round loss to Robin Soderling at the French Open on May 31 ended his streak of four consecutive championships at Roland Garros. Later that week, Nadal pulled out of the Wimbledon tuneup tournament at Queen's Club, then went to Barcelona to have tests on his knees.

"I think I reached the limit right now. I need to reset to come back stronger," Nadal said.

Asked what sort of threat the knee problems might present to his career moving forward, he said: "It's not chronic. I can recover, for sure."

But aside from the physical issues, Nadal spoke on Friday about the mental toll the injury has taken. This is, after



Spain's Rafael Nadal reacts after an exhibition match against Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka which Nadal lost at the Hurlingham Club in London, Friday June 19, 2009.

all, a player whose rise to the upper echelon of tennis was built in part on his ability to race around a court and track down shots.

"One of the big problems is, when I am playing, I'm thinking more about the knees than about the game. So that's very difficult to play well like this, no?" he said.

The withdrawal opens the door for Roger Federer to reclaim the No. 1 ranking, a spot he held for a record 237 consecutive weeks until

Nadal pushed him down to No. 2 in August. That happened about a month after Nadal beat Federer in the 2008 Wimbledon final, a taut thriller decided by a 9-7 fifth set in fading light.

Nadal prevented Federer from claiming a sixth consecutive championship at the All England Club. Now Federer — who beat Nadal in the 2006 and 2007 Wimbledon finals — doesn't have to worry about his nemesis standing in his way this year. □

It's Alex The Great - again

OSKAR GARCIA

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Washington Capitals star forward Alex Ovechkin snagged the Hart Trophy as the NHL most valuable player for the second straight year on Thursday.

Ovechkin also walked off with the NHL Players' Association's Lester B. Pearson Award, given to the most outstanding player in voting by fellow players.

It made no difference that the awards ceremony was moved to Las Vegas from Toronto to make it a more glitzy spectacle. Ovechkin, the leading goal scorer in each of the past two seasons, stood out above the rest.

"It's important for me. What I'm doing on the ice, it's working and I don't want to stop," Ovechkin said.

"Right now, I'm the best, but next year everyone will be better."

Ovechkin said he planned to send his trophies to his family's home in Russia for safekeeping.

"My parents take care of it," the 23-year-old winger said. He also won \$10,000 for the award.

Pavel Datsyuk couldn't top Ovechkin for the Hart or Pearson awards, but he did pull off a double play for the second consecutive season. Datsyuk, the Detroit Red Wings' outstanding two-

way center, claimed the Selke Trophy as the league's top defensive forward and the Lady Byng Trophy for gentlemanly play and skill.

Datsyuk, who nearly helped the Red Wings to a second straight Stanley Cup title after returning from injury during the finals, has won the Lady Byng for four consecutive years and the Selke twice in a row.

"Second," Datsyuk said after winning the Lady Byng, "Now I'm more confident."

The Boston Bruins made a disappointing exit in the second round of the playoffs after posting the best record in the Eastern Conference, but they took home multiple awards.

Tim Thomas, who had a 2.10 goals-against average, won the Vezina Trophy for best goalie, and 6-foot-9 (2.06-meter) Zdeno Chara earned the Norris Trophy as top defenseman, breaking the three-year winning streak of Detroit's Nicklas Lidstrom.

Bruins coach Claude Julien was given the Jack Adams Award as the NHL's top coach. Columbus goalie Steve Mason took the Calder Trophy as rookie of the year after leading the NHL with 10 shutouts and ranking second with a 2.29 goals-against average. He was the first rookie to lead the NHL in shutouts since Chicago's Tony Esposito in 1970.

Ovechkin scored a league-high

56 goals during the regular season and was rewarded at the Palms Casino Resort. He is the first back-to-back Hart winner since Buffalo goalie Dominik Hasek in 1997 and '98.

Pittsburgh's Evgeni Malkin settled for being a finalist after winning the regular season and playoff scoring titles. Votes were cast before the Penguins' run to the Stanley Cup championship.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said in moving the show that Las Vegas would give it more room to expand its year-end celebration of its players. Las Vegas, he said, would attract more fans and celebrities and make things more exciting for players honored as the best of the best. □



Washington Capitals' Alex Ovechkin, of Russia, holds the Hart Memorial trophy as he poses with Lester Pearson Trophy, left, and the Maurice Richard trophy at the National Hockey League awards in Las Vegas Thursday, June 18, 2009.

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MLB Roundup

Cubs rally past White Sox 6-5 at Wrigley Field

CHICAGO (AP) — Derrek Lee and Geovany Soto hit consecutive homers to tie the game in a four-run eighth inning, before Alfonso Soriano singled home the winning run in the ninth to give the Chicago Cubs a 6-5 victory over the White Sox on Thursday.

The late comeback gave the Cubs a two-game split in a rain-shortened set at Wrigley Field. They are 34-34 against their crosstown rivals in interleague play.

Pinch-hitter Reed Johnson started the ninth with a single, moved up on a sacrifice and scored on Soriano's two-out single off Matt Thornton (4-2). Soriano was 14 for 102 and 0 for 15 before singling in his final two at-bats.

Blue Jays 8, Phillies 7

At Philadelphia, pinch-hitter Rod Barajas led off the ninth inning with a tiebreaking home run as Toronto beat Philadelphia to complete a three-game sweep of the World Series champions.

Raul Chavez and Adam Lind also homered for the injury-riddled Blue Jays, who were 0-6 in interleague play when they arrived in Philadelphia.

Jayson Werth, Jimmy Rollins, John Mayberry Jr. and pinch-hitter Greg Dobbs went deep for the Phillies, who dropped to 13-19 at home hours after putting slugger Raul Ibanez on the disabled list.

Nationals 3, Yankees 0

At New York, after waiting out a 5 1/2-hour rain delay at the start, Craig Stammen earned his first major league victory and Julian Tavarez provided key relief as the last-place Washington beat the New York in the first game without a homer at the new Yankee Stadium.

Boosted by Ryan Zimmerman's three hits off Joba Chamberlain (3-2) and a bunch of nifty plays, Washington posted its first two-game winning streak since taking three straight May 7-9. Behind Stammen (1-2), the Nationals became the last team in the majors to pitch a shutout this season.

At Denver, Clint Barmes hit a two-run homer to help Ubaldo Jimenez win his third straight start in Colorado's victory over Tampa Bay.

Todd Helton and Carlos Gonzalez added solo homers for the surging Rockies, who have won 13 of 14. They took the final two in this three-game series after Tampa Bay snapped their 11-game winning streak Tuesday. Jimenez (6-6) allowed one run in 6 2-3 innings. He struck out seven and worked out of several jams.

At San Diego, Adrian Gonzalez matched his career high with four hits, including a homer, and scored the winning run with two outs in



Chicago Cubs Alfonso Soriano gets the game-winning hit during the ninth inning of an interleague baseball game against the Chicago White Sox, Thursday, June 18, 2009, at Wrigley Field in Chicago. The Cubs won 6-5.

the 10th inning as San Diego beat Seattle to end its major league-record interleague losing streak at 13.

Gonzalez doubled off Miguel Batista (3-2) and scored on Kevin Kouzmanoff's single. Gonzalez also homered in the sixth, his first in 13 games, to tie Albert Pujols for the major league lead with 23.

Seattle's Franklin Gutierrez

hit two homers for the first time in his career.

At Minneapolis, Nick Blackburn allowed just six hits for his first career complete game to lead Minnesota over Pittsburgh.

Blackburn (6-2) struck out two and walked one. Michael Cuddyer and Brian Buscher homered for the Twins, who took two of three from the Pirates.

Zach Duke (7-5) allowed three runs and seven hits in six innings for the Pirates, who lost their 13th straight road series to an AL opponent. The last time Pittsburgh won on the road in interleague play was at Tampa Bay in 2003.

At Baltimore, Aubrey Huff drove in the winning run with a ninth-inning single off Francisco Rodriguez, capping a two-run rally that carried Baltimore past the New York Mets.

Rodriguez entered with a 0.56 ERA and 16 saves in 17 tries — the only blemish coming when second baseman Luis Castillo dropped a ninth-inning popup Friday night against the Yankees.

After Matt Wieters hit a leadoff double and Nolan Reimold walked, Brian Roberts laid down a bunt, and the throw to third by catcher Omir Santos was too late to nail pinch-runner Felix Pie.

In other interleague games it was Toronto 8, Philadelphia 7; Washington 3, N.Y. Yankees 0; Minnesota 5, Pittsburgh 1; Chicago Cubs 6, Chicago White Sox 5; Colorado 4, Tampa Bay 3; San Diego 4, Seattle 3, 10 innings; Baltimore 5, N.Y. Mets 4; Florida 2, Boston 1, 6 innings; Houston 5, Texas 3; Arizona 12, Kansas City 5; Detroit 6, St. Louis 3; and L.A. Dodgers 3, Oakland 2. □

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U.S. OPEN

Continued from Page B10

The course played almost two strokes harder in the morning — averaging 74.8 to 72.9 for the afternoon players.

Tiger Woods, the defending champion, returned to finish 12 holes on Friday morning and slowly worked his way up the leaderboard with two birdies and a good par save that put him even for the tournament heading to the 15th.

Too bad he couldn't have stopped there.

He hit a drive into the deep rough and had a chip roll 50 feet down a ridge to take double bogey. He had mud on the side of his ball and missed the green in the worst spot on the 16th for bogey. And he made another bogey on the 18th after driving into a bunker.

Woods dropped four shots over the last four holes for a 74, his highest start at a major since a 76 at the 2006 U.S. Open, the only time he has missed a cut in the major.

Weir's great play put Woods right on the cut line — the 10-shot rule — and he could only hope the leaders didn't get too far away from him as more rain prepared to invade Bethpage Black on Saturday. "I was even par with four to go," Woods said.

"It's not like I was hitting it all over the place. Hit a lot of good shots.

Unfortunately, didn't finish off the round the way I needed to." □

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Primer ministro Perú presenta renuncia pero García da confianza

LIMA (Reuters) - El primer ministro peruano, Yehude Simon, dijo el viernes que presentó su renuncia junto con la de todo el gabinete tras los violentos conflictos con indígenas amazónicos que dejaron decenas de muertos, aunque afirmó que el presidente Alan García le expresó su confianza en el cargo.

Simon había afirmado antes que abandonaría el cargo tras solucionar las violentas protestas con nativos amazónicos que demandaban la derogación de dos polémicas leyes de inversión en la Amazonía, porque consideran que amenazaban sus territorios.

Pero el jueves, tras un pedido del propio García, el Congreso derogó los decretos legislativos, una decisión que pondría fin a la peor crisis que enfrentó el mandatario.

“La decisión es del presidente, saben que en el mes de julio hay cambios de ministros y en esta coyuntura difícil se hizo la renuncia por ética con el presidente”, dijo Simon a la radio local RPP.

“El presidente me ha dado la confianza respectiva, lo ha hecho público. Ya pues, no hay que ser soberbio”, agregó sin dar más detalles.

Simon afirmó además que acudirá al Congreso la próxima semana para responder a una interpelación sobre los cruentos conflictos en la selva que dejaron al menos 34 muertos entre policías y nativos.

“Vamos a ir al Congreso a responder a todas las preguntas que se crean convenientes, de ver la responsabilidad, y en función de eso hemos dicho, veremos que pasa”, dijo. □

El primer ministro de Perú, Yehude Simon, habla en una reunión con indígenas en Lima, 16 jun 2009. REUTERS/Pilar Olivares/Archivo



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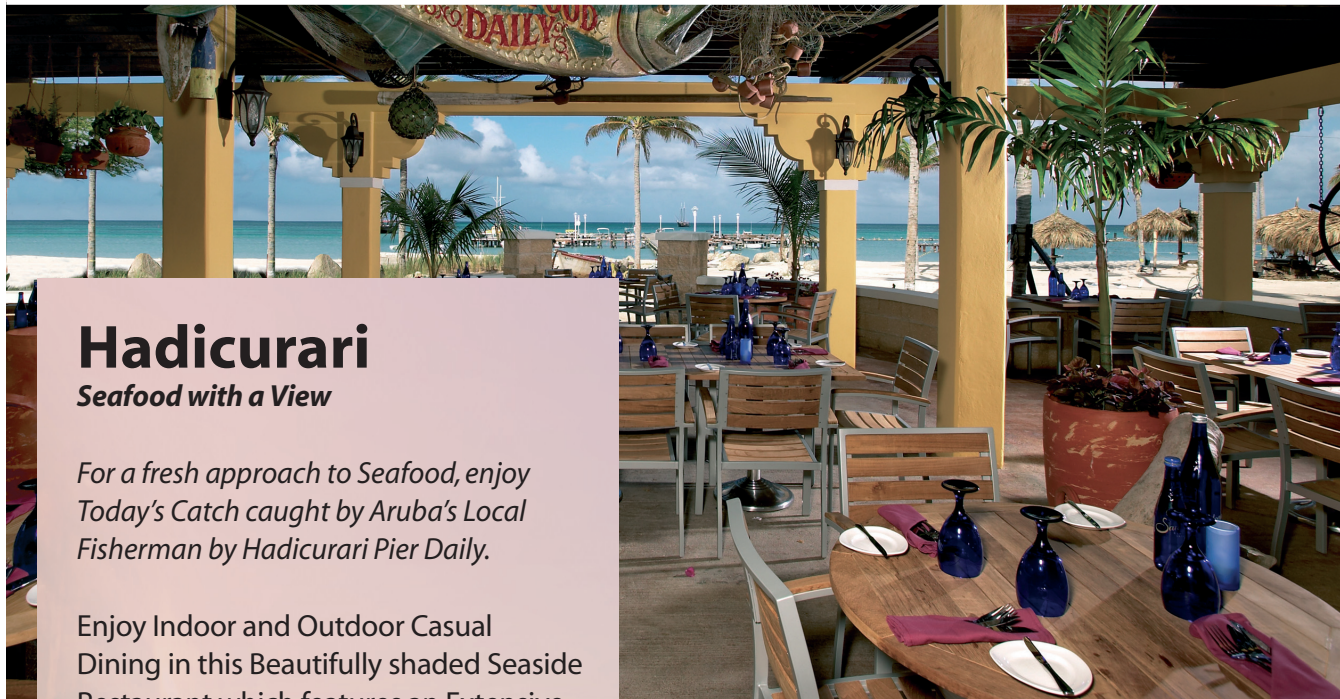
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